



**Cargo Preference News4U
Moving Cargo – Lifeline of the Sea**



Deputy Administrator John Jamian

October/November

Deputy Administrator John Jamian delivered remarks earlier this month at yet another important event which promoted America's merchant marine. The dedication ceremony, held at the Baltimore Harbor celebrated the M/V ALLIANCE NEW YORK's entrance into the U.S.-registry commercial fleet. The vessel will operate in international trade by providing around-the-world ocean service while also being available in times of emergency by giving assured access to Department of Defense.

During his remarks Jamian noted the vessel "has particular significance for our national future. It is symbolic of the rising tide of the rebuilding of the American merchant marine—a movement that is well underway and gathering momentum." To view full text, visit the web at:
<http://intramarad.dot.gov/internetsite/Headlines/speeches/2005/M%20V%20Alliance%20New%20York%20in%20Baltimore.htm>.

The M/V ALLIANCE NEW YORK is a Roll-On/Roll-Off ship that has joined a select group of vessels that are part of America's commercial fleet and the Maritime Administration's Maritime Security Program. For more information, follow MARAD link to
<http://intramarad.dot.gov/internetsite/colorful%20ceremony.html>.

AROUND INDUSTRY

Legislation Introduced to give Merchant Marine Veterans Benefits

Congressman George Radanovich has introduced H.R. 4338 – a bill that would provide veterans' benefits to former, current and future merchant marines who serve during wartime. It was noted that the bill would not only provide benefits to World War II veterans, but also would benefit all who have served in conflict for 12 months or longer."

To learn about this legislation, visit the web at
http://www.house.gov/apps/list/press/ca19_radanovich/Merchant_Marines.html.

MARAD HIGHLIGHTS ITS CUSTOMER—

Merchant Mariners Get the Job Done

Many Americans today may not realize the importance of the merchant marine. These men and women work long hours in support to our Armed Services moving cargo and other materiel to areas around the world and also keeping the searoutes open for our manufacturers, farmers, and consumers. They should be commended on the jobs they do on a daily basis – for they get the job done.

While the merchant marine is known as America's Fourth Arm of Defense – that title came with a price – in some instances death. Although the casualty rate of the merchant mariners numbered second only to the U.S. Marine Corps in the loss of lives during WWII, they were not truly honored until years later. Since that time, however, bills have been approved granting compensation – similar to GI benefits -- to some of our World War II mariners. These men and women continue to exhibit their dedication and commitment to providing the best service they can and are an encouragement to many -- for the merchant mariners can be counted on to stand ready in the face of adversity along with the Armed Service branches. The U.S.-flag merchant marine is the first to go in and the last to come out.

We, in the Maritime Administration, extend thanks to all merchant mariners who crew American-flag ships and their dedication to the maritime industry to ensure America remains in a position of having the qualified people to crew its vessels whenever and wherever the need arise.

We also would like to take this opportunity to wish our merchant mariners, their families, and all of our readers a safe and happy Thanksgiving. As you dine with your families on this festive holiday, remember those men and women who are making it possible for us to be afforded this opportunity.

AROUND MARAD

MARAD Enhanced Web Site for Cargo Preference Program

In a continuing effort to provide good customer service, the Maritime Administration's Office of Cargo Preference has enhanced its web site to basically help us to help you by speeding up the process of finding a U.S.-flag vessel applicable to your needs in transporting cargo around the world. The Assistance form is composed of six questions designed to obtain information on your specific needs. It is imperative that all of the questions are answered precise and complete. Once the form is complete, simply hit the "Submit" button on the bottom of the page. We will then start our search within our American-flag carrier family and report back to you on our findings. For quick access and to view the form, visit the site noted below:

http://www.marad.dot.gov/offices/cargo/Assistance_Form.html.

TO OUR READERS — NOW HEAR THIS — AN OPEN INVITATION

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you who have contributed to the success of this publication. If you are interested in providing articles for use in the newsletter, contact Sharon Jenkins at (202) 366-5064 or via email at Sharon.Jenkins@dot.gov. Other sites relating to cargo preference include:

- ❖ **Cargo preference and its guidelines, <http://www.marad.dot.gov/offices/cargo>**
- ❖ **U.S.-Flag Service (Destinations from U.S. to Foreign Countries), click on <http://www.marad.dot.gov/usflag/>.**
- ❖ **Humanitarian Food Aid Report, click on <http://www.marad.dot.gov/offices/cargo/CAPOS%20Reports>.**

❖ **Public Resolution - 17 Waivers**, click on

<http://www.marad.dot.gov/offices/cargo/PR17waivers.html>.

The Cargo Preference team is available to answer all of your cargo preference concerns. Contact us at 1) 800-9US-FLAG or 202-366-4610; Fax: (202) 366-5522; or Email: cargo.marad@dot.gov